

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1113

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members of the 130th Support Center Corps Rear Area Operations Center, Tennessee Army National Guard, for meritorious service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 130th Support Center Corps Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC), Tennessee Army National Guard, have served with courage and gallantry and deserve proper recognition for heroism in their service during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, the unit was mobilized on May 23, 2007, and was sent to Fort Bliss, Texas, where it underwent training for deployment to Iraq as the support and sustainment command for the Forward Operating Base at Camp Bucca; at the end of July, the unit traveled to Kuwait and began its duty at Camp Bucca on August 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 130th Support Center Corps RAOC served with great bravery and ability while managing all logistics, supply, transportation, engineering, construction, and base life support operations for the almost 30,000 inhabitants of Camp Bucca; they accomplished much during their period of service, including planning and expanding the Dining Facility twice, planning and overseeing the construction of two new internet cafes for their fellow service members, planning and overseeing the construction of two billeting areas to house an additional 1,500 soldiers, overseeing the construction of a new chapel and chapel addition, constructing a new weapons qualification range, initiating a counter-insurgency

operation to search and inspect the visiting families of detainees, and planning a future gym complex for soldiers to recreate and exercise; and

WHEREAS, after distinguishing themselves in the line of duty, all the members of the unit returned safely home to Tennessee on March 10, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the valiant men and women of the 130th Support Center Corps RAOC are First Lieutenant Stacy J. Carter of Lebanon, Sergeant Jason P. Chaulk of Clarksville, Chief Warrant 5 Larry Church of Mt. Pleasant, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Collins of Mt. Juliet, Lieutenant Colonel William Del Castillo of Johnson City, Second Lieutenant Thomas Griffin of Trenton, First Lieutenant Stephen Haley of Murfreesboro, Sergeant Charles Large of Manchester, Master Sergeant Charles Myers of Estill Springs, Staff Sergeant Billy R. Phelps of Chattanooga, Sergeant Thurman Robinson of Dyersburg, Sergeant First Class Phyllis Thomas of Nashville, Sergeant First Class Melvin S. Brown of Nashville, Staff Sergeant Wade Burns of Dyersburg, Staff Sergeant Webb Bussell of Maynardville, First Lieutenant David N. Cope of Kingsport, Specialist Kerry D. Gleason of Murfreesboro, Staff Sergeant Christopher Layne of Tracy City, Sergeant First Class Cindy Layton of Clarksville, Sergeant Catherine MacKinnon of Clarksville, Sergeant First Class Aubrey Moore of Murfreesboro, Specialist Tabitha Parson of Monteagle, Major Travis Powell of Nunnally, Sergeant First Class Brian J. Walsh of Nashville, Specialist Mark D. Young of Lewisburg, Master Sergeant Mark Dodson of Franklin, Master Sergeant Emmett Fowler of Fayetteville, Lieutenant Colonel Robert N. Hibbett of Mt. Juliet, First Lieutenant Nesto Irizarry Cruz of Murfreesboro, and Chief Warrant 2 William Potts of Santa Fe; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 130th Support Center Corps RAOC performed their duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism; their service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the members of the 130th Support Center Corps Rear Area Operations Center for meritorious service in the Tennessee Army National Guard and offer our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.